

## **Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Health Status Report Website Survey**

**Purpose:** This survey was intended to assess who uses the Health Status report that is posted on the internet, how often, as well as, how useful the 2010 MCH Health Status Report is to users.

**Methods:** This internet survey was posted on November 17, 2010 and remained available through June 30, 2011. Visitors to the homepage of the 2010 MCH Health Status Report (<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ps/mch/healthStatus.html>) were invited to take the seven question survey, which automatically opened on the homepage. Respondents could take the survey or close the survey without providing any responses. SurveyMonkey was used to administer the survey and collect results.

**Results:** A total of 64 respondents completed this survey. Of the total, 31 percent (N=20) of respondents were associated with a local health department, 26 percent (N=17) were students, and 17 percent (N=11) were associated with a state health department. The majority (87 percent) of respondents were located in Colorado.

Among all respondents, 42 percent reported that it was their first time to access the health status report. Almost one-third of respondents reported accessing the health status report a couple of times per year. Respondents indicated a variety of uses for the report which include: gain personal knowledge, inform a needs assessment, write a report, evaluate program effectiveness, apply for funding, and monitor health status. Over half (53 percent) of respondents indicated that the health status report was very helpful to their work.

Respondents were asked to comment on the ease of use of the format of the health status report using a scale from one (not easy to use) to five (very easy to use). The rating average was 3.79, indicating that respondents felt the format of the health status report was somewhat easy to use. Only one respondent commented on how the format of the health status report could be improved, "make it possible to click by topic of interest."

Respondents were also asked to note other data resources related to the MCH population that would be helpful to them. Only one respondent commented on other data resources that would be helpful, "Head Start, early childhood readiness and mental health data."

**Conclusions and Next Steps:** The MCH Health Status Report is compiled once every five years as part of the state level MCH needs assessment process. In 2010, this 135-page report required over 1300 hours of staff time and cost the MCH program almost \$100,000 to produce. Although the data in the Health Status Report informed the state level needs assessment, results from this on-line survey demonstrate that the use of the

Health Status Report by the public health community is limited. Survey respondents also indicated that the format could be improved.

Given the cost and limited use of the report, the MCH staff has decided to collect and present quantitative state-level data on the MCH population in a variety of different ways in future years. For example, the MCH epidemiology team will develop data-specific briefs on each of the nine MCH priorities over the five-year Block grant period. They will also create and present an annual state-of-the-state MCH data presentation each year for all MCH stakeholders. Issue papers and the MCH annual data update will provide the basis for the quantitative component of future MCH state-level needs assessment processes as well as provide data on a more routine basis in a more user-friendly format for MCH stakeholders.